have been some complaints regarding quality of coal supplies which mainly relate to high ash content, ad-mixture of stones, shales and other extraneous materials. The following steps are being adopted by coal companies to ensure the supply of quality coal to the consumers:—

(i) Segregation of stones at the time of loading coal;

(ii) In Coal Handling Plants, slow moving picking belts are provided for picking up of shales and stone pieces;

(iii) Maintenance of sufficient stock at the siding so that picking can be ensured before loading;

(iv) Ensuring better supervision to maintain quality control, and developing quality consciousness among workers, supervisors and executives engaged at Railway sidings;

(v) Steps are also being introduced in the washeries for improving quality as per the recommendations of Altekar Committee for supply of washed coking coal of 17 plus minus 0.5 per cent ash content to steel plants.

1995. [*Transferred to the 13th May*, 1992.]

Pension to armed personnel

1996. SHRI SYED SIBTY RAZI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 472 given in the Rajya Sabha on 27th February, 1992 and state:

(a) whether Government have since issued orders to implement the recommendations of the high power Committee to improve the pension of those armed personnel who retired before January, 1986;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) when these recommendations are likely to be implemented completely?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) The Government have issued orders *vide* Ministry of Defence letter No. 1(2)/92|D (Pension/Services), dated 16-3-1992 to implement the recommendations of High Level Empowered Committee for grant of one Time Increase (OTI) in pensions to Armed Forces personnal who retired before 1-1-1986. All pension Disbursing Authorities have been instructed to make payments of pension at enhanced rates on presentation of claims by eligibla Armed Forces pensioners.

2. The details of benefits granted to pre 1-1-1986 Armed Forces pensioners are indicated below:—

(i) Over 6 lakhs of the pre 1-1-1986 Armed Forces Pensioners in different ranks will receive benefit by grant of this one-time increase in pension.

(ii) Substantial increase in pensions has been granted to the pre 1-1-1973 teirees of Commissioned Officer rank, for the first time. Retirees in the ranks upto Lt. Colonel, during the period from 1-1-1973 to 31-12.1985, have also been granted banefits.

(iii) The families of such Reservists who had opted for payment of one-time lump-sum gratuity, and ceased to be pansioners, have been granted an ex-gratia family pension of Rs. 150/- p.m. as done in respect of families of the deceased Contributory Provident Fund beneficiaries.

(iv) The families of ex-Servicemen in receipt of two pensions, who are currently drawing the less advantageous Family Pension, have been given the option to choose the better of the two family Pensions.

(v) The pensions of pre 1-6-1953 Defence retirees in all ranks have been improved.

(vi) The one-time increase will take effect from 1-1-1992.

इलाहाबाद जिले में रक्षा विभाग के प्रयोजनार्थ भूमि का अधिग्रहण

1997. **श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय :** क्या रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या उत्तर प्रदेश के इलाहाबाद जिले में रक्षा विभाग के प्रयोजनार्थ भूमि